

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Atsunori Hiratsuka *et al.*

Serial No.:

Group No.:

Filed:

Examiner:

Entitled: **Methods For Separating Substances**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT EO/US

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dated: March 4, 2005

By: Karen B Webber
Karen B. Webber

Sir or Madam:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced application as described herein. Amendments to the specification begin on page 2, while amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper. In addition, remarks begin on page 8.